

Message Text

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11

ACTION IO-13

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, EGEN

SUB: 61ST ECOSOC-DECLARATION OF ABIDJAN ADOPTED; END OF FIRST ROUND

REF: A. ABIDJAN 6392, B. ABIDJAN 6287, C. ABIDJAN 6293

1. SUMMARY AND COMMENT. EFFORTS OF THE CONTACT GROUP
FINALLY RESULTED IN AGREEMENT LATE LAST NIGHT ON A SATISFACTORY
COMPROMISE TEXT OF THE DECLARATION OF ABIDJAN (REF A), WHICH WAS
ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS IN PLENARY SESSION TODAY (JULY 9), WITH NO
STATEMENTS OF RESERVATION OR EXPLANATION. WE CONSIDER THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S HELPFUL INSTRUCTIONS TO YAVE
BEEN MET, WITH THE ELIMINATION OF UNACCEPTABLE REFERENCES TO THE
CERDS AND NIEO AND WITH OTHER IMPROVEMENTS. THE GENERAL RACTION
AMONG DELEGATIONS IS ONE OF SATISFACTION AT HAVING EMERGED WITH A
NONCONTROVERSIAL DOCUMENT AND THUS MEETING THE NEED S OF
ECOSOC'S IVORIAN HOSTS. BEYOND THIS, HOWEVER , NO ONE PRETENDS
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THE THE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT AND STRUGGLE EXPENDED HAS RESULTED
IN A DECLARATION OF ANY GREAT SIGNIFICANCE, AND THE MORE ACTIVIST
MEMBERS OF THE G-77 ARE OBVIOUSLY DISAPPOINTED AT HAVING
TO ABANDON THEIR DESIGNS FOR SOMETHING EMBRACING CONTROVERSIAL

G-77 POSITIONS. BY WAY OF CONSOLATION, JUST BEFORE ADOPTION OF THE DECLARATION THE G-77 COORDINATOR (PAKISTAN) FORMALLY INTRODUCED THE EARLIER, SWEEPING G-77 DRAFT, TERMING IT A G-77 "POSITION PAPER" BUT MAKING NO REQUEST FOR FURTHER ACTION OR NEGOTIATION ON IT.

FOR THE U.S., FAVORABLE REACTIONS TO GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT AND TO THE POSITIVE ROLE OVER THE DECLARATION PLACE US IN A GOOD STARTING POSITION FOR THE REMAINING G-77 PORTION. END SUMMARY AND COMMENTS.

2. VARIOUS FACTORS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EVENTUAL BREAK-THROUGH IN THIS DIFFICULT NEGOTIATION, INCLUDING PRESSURES FROM THOSE ANXIOUS TO HELP THE IVORIAN HOSTS, THE NORWEGIAN-AUSTRALIAN-AUSTRIAN DRAFT, AND THE G-77'S RELUCTANT DECISION TO SET ASIDE THEIR ORIGINAL DRAFT IN FAVOR OF THEIR COUNTER-PROPOSAL TO THE THREE-COUNTRY DRAFT. A VERY IMPORTANT FINAL FACTOR WAS OUR ABILITY -- THANKS TO THE DEPARTMENT'S PROMPT INSTRUCTION-- TO INDICATE INFORMALLY THAT WE COULD GO ALONG WITH THE G-77 COUNTER-DRAFT PROVIDED CERTAIN UNACCEPTABLE PASSAGES WERE CHANGED. IN SO DOING, HOWEVER, WE TRIED TO MINIMIZE PROBLEMS FOR OUR EC-9 COLLEAGUES, WHO HAD SOME DIFFICULTIES WITH THE POLITICAL ON AGGRESSION, PARAGRAPH, OCCUPATION, ETC. OUR CLOSE COORDINATION WITH EC-9 AND OTHER WEST DELEGATIONS AND THE EC-9'S SOLIDARITY WITH US IN PASSING PASSAGES ON IMPLEMENTING THE NEIO AND CERDS WERE ALSO MAJOR FACTORS IN BRINGING ABOUT A SATISFACTORY RESULT.

3. THE SOVIET BLOC HAD VERY LITTLE IMPACT, FINALLY GIVING UP THEIR INSISTENCE ON INCLUDING "PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE" IN THE FACE OF EC-9 OBJECTIONS AND LACK OF G-77 SUPPORT. IN A COUPLE OF INSTANCES THEY WERE HELPFUL. THE CHINESE ROLE WAS MUTED, ALTHOUGH THEY DID SUCCEED IN ADDING A FEW UNEXCEPTIONABLE PHRASES.

4. ON THE G-77 SIDE, THE PRINCIPAL SPOKESMAN IN THE CONTACT GROUP WERE QUADRUD-DIN OF PAKISTAN AND DIALLO OF UPPER VOLTA, WHOSE TENACITY IN WORRYING EVERY POINT REACHED THE PROPORTIONS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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COUNTERPRODUCTIVITY AND, WE THINK, EMBARRASSMENT TO THEIR MORE MODERATE COLLEAGUES.

5. AS THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE FROM COMPARING THE G-77 COUNTER-PROPOSAL (REF B) WITH THE FINAL TEXT (REF A), THE CHANGES MADE TO MEET OUR REQUIREMENTS ON NEIO AND CERDS WEREAS (A) IN CONVERTING THE OLD PARA 8 INTO THE NEW PARAS 7 AND 8, "REAFFIRMS THE NEED TO IMPLEMENT" THE NEIO AND CERDS WAS ELIMINATED IN FAVOR OF "TAKING FULLY INTO ACCOUNT." WE TRIED TO ELIMINATE "FULLY," BUT IN VIEW OF PRECEDENTS AND NEGOTIATING SITUATION WE FINALLY WENT ALONG. "IMPLEMENTATION" NOW REFERS ONLY TO "AGREEMENTS REACHED" IN THE UN SYSTEM INCLUDING AT UNCTAD ETC. (B) THE

OLD

PARA 13 CONTAINING THE PHRASE "IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NIEO" WAS DROPPED ENTIRELY. (C) THE LAST PHRASE IN THE LAST PARAGRAPH WAS CHANGED FROM "IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NIEO " TO "IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UN CHARTER."

6. WITH RESPECT TO THE OLD PARA 7 ON THE "NEED FOR AN ADEQUATE RESPONSE" TO LDC VIEWS AND PROPOSALS STATED IN THE MANILA DECLARATION ETC, THE U.S. PROPOSED A BALANCING PARAGRAPH ON THE "NEED TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO THE VIEW AND PROPOSALS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, FOR EXAMPLE, AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, UNCTAD IV AND CEIC, "LATER DROPPING THE SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO MEET SOVIET PROBLEMS WITH CEIC. AFTER ARGUMENTUM AD ABSURDUM, DIALLO THRE OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATH WATER BY PROPOSING THE ELIMINATION OF BOTH PARAGRAPHS, THUS LEAVING NO REFERENCE TO MANILA.

7. POLITICAL PAR 5 ON ELIMINATING COLONIALISM, AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION, ETC WAS SLIGHTLY MODIFIED AT THE REQUEST OF THE EC-9, WHO INITIALLY HAD CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY WITH THIS FORMULATION.

8. THE G-77 COORDINATOR (PAKISTAN) AND THE SOVIETS WERE EQUALLY ADAMANT IN THE WORKING GROUP THAT PART OF THE PACKAGE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO RESERVATIONS, EXPLANATIONS OR SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS IN PLENARY ON THE DECLARATION, WE OBVIOUSLY TO THE FRAGILITY OF THE CONSENSUS. THIS WAS AGREED. IN VIEW OF THE SATISFACTORY OUTCOME, WE PLANNED TO MAKE NO STATEMENT ANYWAY.

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9. WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL G-77 PAPER (E/L QUWI AREF C), PAKISTAN ASSURED US BEFOREHAND THAT ITS PLENARY STATEMENT WOULD MAKE NO EXPLICIT REQUEST FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS PAPER THUS OBVIATING THE NEED FOR ANY U.S. OR OTHER WESTERN RESPONSE AS G-77 COORDINATOR, PAKISTAN (HUSSAIN) INTRODUCED IT IN PLENARY REQUESTING THAT THE TITLE BE CHANGED FROM DRAFT DECLARATION OF ABIDJAN TO "POSITION PAPER OF THE GROUP OF 77 IN THE CONTEXT OF AGENDA ITEM 3 OF THE 61ST SESSION OF THE ECOSOC" -- AGENDA ITEM 3 BEING GENERAL DEBATE WHICH COULDED TODAY. IN DESCRIBING THE DOCUMENT IN PLENARY, HUSSAIN STATED THAT PAR 41 REFERRING TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' "INTENTION TO HOLD FUTURE MEETINGS AT VARIOUS LEVELS, INCLUDING THE HIGHEST LEVEL ETC. "REFERRED INTER-ALIA TO THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AT COLOMBO, THE HIGH - LEVEL G-77 MEETING IN MEXICO CITY (ON COOPERATION AMONG LDCS) AND PAKISTAN'S PROPOSAL FOR A THIRD WORLD (G-77) SUMMIT. PAKISTAN REPRESENTATIVE TOLD US AFTERWARD THAT THIS WAS PART OF THE AGREED SOLUTION TO THE SPLIT IN THE G-77 (REF C), I.E. THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE BHUTTO PROPOSAL IN THE TEXT BUT THAT

PAKISTAN COULD MENTION IT IN INTRODUCING THE DOCUMENT.

10. FURTHER COMMENT:THE ABIDJAN MEETING, NOW CONCLUDED, WAS IN
SMOE WAYS NOTEWORTHY FOR WHAT DID NOT HAPPEN. DESPITE DENUNCIA-
TION OF THE ISRAELI ACTION AT ENTEBBE, COOLER HEADS DISSUADED
SOME AFRICAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES FROM INTRODUCING AN ANTI-
ISRAEL RESOLUTION; NEITHER DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE
DECLARATION NOR IN PLENARY DID ANYONE TRY TO RELATE THE TEST TO
ZIONISM-RACISM; AND OF COURSE THE WESTERN DELEGATES STUCK TOGETHER
FOR ONE IN REFUSING TO NEGOTIATE ON AN OUTRAGEOUS G-77 TEXT.
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